

Mr. Starbuck's letter from Waltham, Mass., inclosed a copy of the other portrait, taken from the original negative, and gave its history as follows :

"About the last of February, 1865, Mr. H. F. Warren, a photographer of Waltham, Mass., left home, intending, if practicable, to visit the army in front of Richmond and Petersburg. Arriving in Washington on the morning of the 4th of March, and finding it necessary to procure passes to carry out the end he had in view, he concluded to remain there until the inauguration ceremonies were over, and, having carried with him all the apparatus necessary for taking negatives, he decided to try to secure a sitting from the President. At that time rumors of plots and dangers had caused the friends of President Lincoln to urge upon him the necessity of a guard, and, as he had finally permitted the presence of such a body, an audience with him was somewhat difficult. On the afternoon of the 6th of March, Mr. Warren sought a presentation to Mr. Lincoln, but found, after consulting with the guard, that an interview could be had on that day in only a somewhat irregular manner. After some conversation with the officer in charge, who became convinced of his loyalty, Mr. Warren was admitted within the lines, and, at the same

time, was given to understand that the surest way to obtain an audience with the President was through the intercession of his little son 'Tad.' The latter was a great pet with the soldiers, and was constantly at their barracks, and soon made his appearance, mounted upon his pony. He and the pony were soon placed in position and photographed, after which Mr. Warren asked 'Tad' to tell his father that a man had come all the way from Boston, and was particularly anxious to see him and obtain a sitting from him. 'Tad' went to see his father, and word was soon returned that Mr. Lincoln would comply. In the meantime Mr. Warren had improvised a kind of studio upon the south balcony of the White House. Mr. Lincoln soon came out, and, saying but a very few words, took his seat as indicated. After a single negative was taken, he inquired: 'Is that all, sir?' Unwilling to detain him longer than was absolutely necessary, Mr. Warren replied: 'Yes, sir,' and the President immediately withdrew. At the time he appeared upon the balcony the wind was blowing freshly, as his disarranged hair indicates, and, as sunset was rapidly approaching, it was difficult to obtain a sharp picture. Six weeks later President Lincoln was dead, and it is doubtless true that this is the last photograph ever made of him."

HOW LINCOLN WAS NOMINATED.

As the nomination of Lincoln to the Presidency was the central event of his life,—an event pregnant with the most important consequences to the nation, every incident bearing upon this nomination must always have exceptional interest and value. His biographers devote but little space to the history of the Republican National Convention which nominated him, and few details have been made public of the secret springs and inner workings of that convention. Henry J. Raymond, who, from his position as a leading journalist and politician of that period, must be supposed to have known much of the inside history of the nomination, in his "Life of Lincoln" gives less than two pages to the account of that part of the convention which preceded the final ballot. He says:

"Mr. Bates and Mr. Cameron were spoken of and pressed somewhat as candidates, but * * * from the first it was evident that the contest lay between Mr. Seward and Mr. Lincoln."

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Before the convention assembled, it was generally believed that Governor Seward would be nominated almost by acclamation. He was the foremost leader and statesman of the Republican party, and there was just cause for the enthusiasm with which he was regarded. His "Irrepressible Conflict" and "Higher Law" speeches had placed him head and shoulders above his contemporaries. Contrasted with Webster, Clay, Calhoun, Buchanan, Cass, and others of their day, he stood on a moral height overtopping them all. Lincoln, on the other hand, had come into notice only through his debate with Douglas, in Illinois, in 1858, in the contest for the senatorship, and his Cooper Institute speech in New York, delivered less than three months before the convention met at Chicago; his one term in Congress, terminating in 1849, had attracted no special attention. So sanguine were the New York delegation and his friends everywhere that Seward would be nominated

on the first ballot, that preparations were made for a suitable celebration of the event at his home in Auburn, N. Y., and at other places, as soon as the announcement should be made. His supporters—and no candidate ever had warmer adherents—returned from Chicago saddened and disheartened, if not disgusted, at the result of the convention. His life-long friend, Thurlow Weed, was said to have shed tears upon his defeat. James W. Nye, afterward Senator from Nevada, said, in his inimitable way, with carpet-bag in hand, that he intended to travel nights and lie by days until he reached home, as he felt too mortified and ashamed to be recognized. Probably the supporters of no candidate were ever more disappointed at the result of a convention than were the friends of Governor Seward.

Indeed, they had the best of reasons to be confident. The convention met on Wednesday, May 16th, 1860, and as late as Thursday night, Horace Greeley (who was avowedly hostile to Seward, and was generally credited with securing his defeat) was convinced that all efforts to defeat him were futile, and telegraphed to the "Tribune":

"My conviction from all I can gather is, that the opposition to Governor Seward cannot concentrate on any other candidate, and that he will be nominated."

Raymond says:

"On Thursday, the 17th, the Committee on Resolutions reported the platform, which was enthusiastically adopted. A motion was made to proceed to the nomination at once, and, if that had been done, the result of the convention might have proved very different, as at that time it was thought that Mr. Seward's chances were the best. But an adjournment was taken till the morning, and during the night the combinations were made which resulted in the nomination of Mr. Lincoln."

The facts concerning the most important of the "combinations" referred to by Mr. Raymond are here first made public.

That Greeley, David Dudley Field, Hiram Barney, George Opdyke, and others from New York, went to Chicago with the purpose of defeating Seward, is well known. While Greeley expressed his preference for Judge Bates, whose cause he had advocated in the "Tribune," Mr. Field was an untiring worker for Lincoln. The influence of these two gentlemen upon the members of the convention was very great; but all efforts to defeat Mr. Seward probably would have failed, except for the work done in harmonizing the conflicting and antagonistic elements existing in the Pennsylvania delegation. This result was chiefly due to Andrew G. Curtin,

A. K. McClure, William B. Mann, and S. Newton Pettis, of that delegation. The opposition of these gentlemen to Seward was not embittered by personal animosity or political vindictiveness, but was based upon the sincere conviction that he could not obtain the electoral vote of Pennsylvania, and that without this vote he could not be elected in the event of his nomination.

The importance of the action of the Pennsylvania delegation at Chicago in its bearing on the nomination of Lincoln can scarcely be overestimated. It was said at Chicago, by Curtin, McClure, Mann, and Pettis, that if the convention nominated Seward, nearly the entire press of Philadelphia, that desired to successfully oppose the Democracy, would at once run up the "Bell and Everett" ticket. None knew better the strength of the "American" element and the weakness of the "Republican" organization in that city, at that time, than these gentlemen, and their opinion was shared by the best politicians in the State.

Mr. Curtin was at this time the Republican candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania. His statement, freely and frankly made, that, if Mr. Seward was nominated for President, the presidential election being in November, he (Curtin) would certainly be defeated for Governor at the State election in October, influenced the more sagacious and unselfish of the delegates from various Northern States, and especially from the doubtful States of Indiana and New Jersey. These two States, with Pennsylvania, were considered the pivotal States, and, by common consent, constituted the battle-ground.

At an informal meeting of the delegates from Pennsylvania on Monday, an effort was made by the friends of Simon Cameron to secure a united and solid vote of that delegation for him for President, but it failed, as did similar movements on Tuesday and Wednesday. More than two-thirds, or about that number of the delegates, favored his nomination; the other third inclined to Seward, Wade, and others. The delegates had been named by the State Convention the February before, and by a majority vote were instructed to vote as a unit for Mr. Cameron for President, when the National Convention assembled, while nearly a third of the delegates were from regions that preferred some other candidate, and refused to be bound by the unit rule of the State Convention.

Such being the situation, Mr. E. R. Tinker, of North Adams, Massachusetts, an active worker at the convention, though not a delegate, proposed that the delegations from the three doubtful States, Pennsylvania, In-

diana, and New Jersey, express their first, second, and third choices for a presidential candidate for whom their States could be carried, and report the same to a conference composed of a committee of three from each of those three States, whose duty it should be to learn the preferences of such three delegations, and report the same back to their several delegations. This suggestion found great favor. It was affirmed that, while the Massachusetts delegation was warmly attached to Seward, it desired the nomination to fall upon the man that could certainly be elected, and that it believed the electoral vote of Pennsylvania necessary to success in November; but that, in the opinion of the Massachusetts delegation, while there was no doubt that Pennsylvania could be carried for Cameron, it did not seem probable that Cameron could carry other States quite as necessary to success, and for that reason, if a majority of the Pennsylvania delegation should insist upon voting for Cameron all the time, the Massachusetts delegation would adhere to Seward; but, if Pennsylvania would agree upon the names of two other candidates, as second and third choice, Massachusetts, in order to insure success in November, would coöperate with Pennsylvania in endeavoring to secure the nomination of the candidate most likely to secure the majority of the convention.

It was late in the afternoon of Wednesday that the Pennsylvania delegation, in informal session, resolved that its chairman, Governor Reeder, appoint a committee of three, to meet a like number from the delegations from Indiana and New Jersey. Governor Reeder at once appointed Judge Wilmot of Bradford, Mr. Peterkin of Clinton, and Henry D. Moore of Philadelphia, all three being attached friends of Mr. Cameron.

Mr. Pettis, one of the younger men of the delegation, feeling that such a move was unfair and impolitic, at once went to Mr. Moore and asked him to decline serving, in order that some one of the minority might be put upon the committee, to which Mr. Moore readily consented. The chairman then submitted the question to the delegation whether or not Mr. Moore should be excused. Before a vote was taken, Mr. Pettis made a forcible appeal to the magnanimity of the majority, contending that it was illiberal and unfair to deny the minority representation on the committee. Several of Mr. Cameron's friends being convinced by this appeal, voted with Mr. Pettis, and Mr. Moore was "excused" by a majority of three.

Mr. Lowry, of Erie, then moved that Thaddeus Stevens be selected in place of Mr. Moore, to serve on the committee. Knowing that

Thaddeus Stevens was of all others the most pronounced friend of Mr. Cameron, Mr. Pettis moved to amend the motion by substituting the name of William B. Mann, of Philadelphia, again urging the injustice of denying those of the delegation opposed to Cameron representation upon the committee. Enough Cameron men again voted with Pettis to elect Mann, by a majority of five. Mr. Lowry, in a moment of excitement, charged Pettis with treachery to Cameron, and declared that he would be held responsible for the consequences of this action. The next thing in order was to declare the first, second, and third choices of Pennsylvania, to be communicated to the conference of nine.

To the surprise of every one in the room, Colonel Mann arose and moved to dispense with a vote as to the first choice, for all knew that a large majority of the Pennsylvania delegation were for Cameron as first choice, which being acquiesced in, Mann moved to proceed to ascertain the sense of the delegation as to its second choice, which was done. Philadelphia led off for Judge McLean, and others representing localities adjacent to that city followed its example; while the western portion of the State, which was to contribute the large Republican majorities, scattered on Seward and Wade, with a small sprinkling for Lincoln. Philadelphia's choice was declared to be the second choice. When expression was asked as to the third choice, the East again led off—this time for Judge Bates, of Missouri. The delegates from the western portion of the State, whether for Seward, Wade, or Lincoln, discovered that the only way to prevent Bates being named, was to throw to Lincoln the vote of all the Western delegates that had before been given to Wade, which was promptly done, and in this way Lincoln was made the third choice, by a majority of only three over Bates. The delegates then adjourned for supper, but met again the same evening to receive the report of the Committee of Three, consisting of Messrs. Wilmot, Peterkin, and Mann.

At the Briggs House, the headquarters of Mr. Cameron's friends, there was much feeling over Pettis's action in putting Mann upon the Committee of Conference. Mann was known to be violently hostile to Cameron, and it was feared this would lead him to assail Cameron in the conference. Curtin expressed displeasure because the delegation had voted for Lincoln as its third choice, instead of Bates, who was preferred by Philadelphia. At nine o'clock p. m. the delegation met and heard the report of the Committee of Three. It then transpired that nothing had occurred

at the conference by which it could be inferred that Mann was any less a friend of Cameron's than the other two of the committee. After the report had been made and accepted, it became known that it was satisfactory to the delegates of Massachusetts and other New England States, who would leave Seward for Lincoln, but not for Cameron, Bates, or McLean.

Thursday noon, after the adoption of the platform, as the convention was about to adjourn for dinner, it was announced that an invitation would be extended to the members of the convention by the authorities of the city, or the citizens, for an excursion that afternoon upon Lake Michigan; but, as the proposition had not assumed any definite shape, no action was taken upon it, and the convention adjourned until two o'clock p. m. The leading opponents of Seward believed that if a vote were taken that afternoon (Thursday) Seward would certainly be nominated, but that if the convention could be induced to accept the invitation to go *boat-riding*, adjourning over until morning, during the night a compromise upon some plan that would produce harmony among Seward's opponents might be effected. Curtin and his friends from Pennsylvania, and all others who shared his views, from other States, thereupon went among the delegates, and impressed upon them the fact that it would be an impoliteness bordering upon rudeness for the convention to decline the excursion invitation.

Upon the reassembling of the convention in the afternoon, the Seward men were eager to proceed to balloting at once, this being the next business in the regular order. But before a vote could be taken to proceed, Mr. Ashmun, the chairman, announced that the printed lists of ballots had not been delivered; whereupon, by a bare majority, the steamboat ride was ordered, the convention standing adjourned until Friday morning. This action, under ordinary circumstances so unimportant, sealed Seward's fate and secured the Republican triumph of 1860.

After supper, Thursday evening, the Pennsylvania delegation met in their hall, for the purpose of agreeing, if possible, upon some plan to secure *united* action, so essential in order to give Pennsylvania power in the convention in the selection of a candidate. About ten o'clock that night the formal motion was renewed, that, upon the meeting of the convention, a united vote be cast for Mr. Cameron, whereupon a bitter and excited discussion took place, Mr. Mann leading off against the motion, Messrs. Lowry, Peterkin, and Wilmot replying. The discussion lasted

till near midnight—when Mr. Pettis rose to a motion for adjournment, which, he stated, he would make, after reading a resolution he had hastily penciled on the back of an envelope, which he would offer at an informal meeting of the delegation the next morning. Mr. Pettis's resolution was in these words:

“Resolved, that in the proceedings of the Republican Convention to-morrow, the vote of this delegation be cast as a *unit* for General Simon Cameron until a majority of the delegation direct otherwise, then, its vote to be continued as a *unit*, for the candidate so designated by such majority.”

Having read the resolution, Mr. Pettis said he did not propose to ask its consideration then, as all were too much excited to deliberate, much less to act dispassionately; whereupon his motion to adjourn until nine o'clock the next morning was carried without a dissenting voice. Immediately after the adjournment, the chairman, Governor Reeder, and Mr. Pettis went together to the room known as the Cameron head-quarters, at the Briggs House, where Pettis inquired of those known and acknowledged as Cameron's faithful adherents, whether, if the consent were obtained of the anti-Cameron members of the delegation to support his resolution, whereby Cameron would receive the solid vote of Pennsylvania in the convention Friday morning, they would be satisfied, and shield him from censure by the friends of Cameron, if he at any time, after a united vote have been given him, judged it necessary to leave him, and with a sufficient number of other Cameron delegates to constitute a majority of the delegation to change to some one who could in all probability carry Pennsylvania in November, and adhere in good faith to the *unit* rule embraced in his resolution? All said yes,—Mr. Cummings, of Philadelphia, remarking that Pettis would never succeed in getting the minority to consent to a *unanimous* vote for Cameron, in open convention; Pettis replied that he would try, and he believed he could do it. The remainder of the night he passed with the members of the delegation known to be opposed to Cameron's nomination.

It was nearly daylight, Friday morning, when the last man's consent was obtained to support the Pettis resolution. Curtin, Mann, and Pettis then adjourned to a private parlor, and Pettis made known the result of his labors with the anti-Cameron men. He then requested Mann to forego his hostility to Cameron long enough to go into an informal meeting at nine o'clock that morning, and vote for his resolution empowering Governor Reeder to cast the solid vote of Pennsylvania

for Cameron, at the same time assuring him as to what would ultimately be done by the delegation. Mann at first consented, when, fired by a remark of Senator Finney, who had joined the party, and was also hostile to Cameron, Mann denounced Cameron in the strongest manner, withdrawing the pledge he had just given Pettis to vote for him. Curtin joined his entreaties to those of Pettis, but Mann was unalterable in his purpose.

Shortly after five o'clock in the morning of that eventful Friday, Pettis went to Curtin's room at the Briggs House. He found Curtin in bed in one corner, McClure in another, and Mann in a bed which had been made on the floor. Pettis made an appeal to Mann to reconsider the position he had taken against Cameron. He stated that, in his judgment, Pennsylvania had it in her power that day to dictate the nomination of a candidate for President; that she could use such power or throw it away; that the responsibility of nominating a candidate that could be elected in November rested upon the Pennsylvania delegation then in Chicago,—in his opinion it rested upon one member of that delegation, and his name was William B. Mann. Pettis then made a personal request of Mann to stay out of the delegation caucus at nine o'clock that morning, unless he could vote in harmony with the other members of the delegation, whereupon he retired to his own room for an hour's rest.

At nine o'clock, Friday morning, the delegation met in caucus at their hall. The Pettis resolution being again read and formally offered, it was supported first by Judge Lewis, of Chester. Mr. McClure, Chairman of the Republican State Committee, although not a delegate, by invitation made an effective speech favoring the adoption of the resolution. Mr. Curtin was then called upon, and replied in a speech that thrilled the delegation. Upon the conclusion of Curtin's speech a vote was called for, and the resolution passed unanimously. This was the critical moment of the convention. The Pennsylvania delegation was believed to be hopelessly divided in their choice and counsels. Up to this moment no person in or out of Chicago had any authority to say that the vote of this delegation would be cast as a unit for anybody. This fact disproves the assertion made in Lamon's "Life of Lincoln," and often repeated, that Thursday night a "bargain" was made, by which, in consideration of the Pennsylvania votes being cast for Lincoln, Cameron was to have a seat in the Cabinet. Up to nine o'clock Friday morning it was not certain that the delegation would unite even upon Cameron. It is not

probable, then, that the solid vote could have been "bargained" to any other candidate. Mr. Lincoln himself said, a week before his inauguration, that he had not decided even then to offer Cameron a cabinet position. He added in his impressive way, that if, "after he reached Washington, the charges made against General Cameron were not disproved, he certainly should not offer him a seat in the Cabinet."

The Pettis resolution having passed unanimously, the caucus adjourned, and the delegates started with cheery steps for the wigwam, where the convention was assembling. The balloting soon commenced. When Pennsylvania was called, the vote was given through the chairman, Governor Reeder, for Simon Cameron.*

The insignificant vote cast for Cameron from other States than Pennsylvania, on the first ballot, and the very large vote cast for Seward, made evident the fact that, if Seward was to be defeated, it must be by Lincoln, and by concentrating upon him at the next ballot. The Pennsylvania delegation was seated at one end of the platform occupied by members of the convention, and convenient to a door leading to a large, unoccupied room, through which had they passed on entering the convention. The delegation, through Governor Reeder, asked leave from the convention to retire for consultation. They proceeded to this room, while preparations were being made by the convention for a second ballot. The moment the door was closed upon the delegation, Mr. Pettis—disregarding the action of the caucus which had named Judge McLean as second choice—moved that the second vote of the delegation be continued as a *unit* and cast for Abraham Lincoln, which passed almost unanimously. Wilmot, Pettis and Lowry then went to William Cameron, a brother of General Cameron, and a member of the delegation, and suggested to him the withdrawal of the General's name as a candidate. This was done. The delegation then returned to the convention, finding that the second ballot was being taken. The first ballot had shown 173½ votes for Seward to 102 for Lincoln, the rest being scattered. Massachusetts had been called on the second ballot, but had not responded. The delegates were evidently waiting to see if Pennsylvania was bound to adhere to Cameron, in which case

* The N. Y. "Tribune" report of the first ballot gave Seward 1½ votes, and Lincoln 4 votes from Pennsylvania. There is unquestionable authority for stating that this was incorrect. The first vote of Pennsylvania was given through the chairman, Governor Reeder, *solid* for General Cameron.

they would have voted for Seward. New Jersey had been called, but had not voted. When the Pennsylvania delegation returned, the President of the Convention, George Ashmun, of Massachusetts, inquired if Pennsylvania was ready to vote. Governor Reeder replied in a strong, clear voice, "*Pennsylvania casts her fifty-two votes for ABRAHAM LINCOLN, of Illinois.*" Many delegates involuntarily rose to their feet, and cheer followed cheer. The multitude in the pit threw up their hats and canes, and hurraed wildly. The thousands of ladies in the galleries waved their handkerchiefs, while the immense crowd outside the wigwam screamed and shouted. For several minutes rejoicing seemed to run riot, the New York delegation, meanwhile, remaining silent in their seats.

Order being restored, New Jersey was called, and changed her vote from Dayton to Lincoln. Vermont followed suit, changing from Collamer to Lincoln, and Massachusetts divided between Seward and Lincoln. The result of the second ballot gave 184½ votes for Seward, and 181 for Lincoln, a gain to Seward of 11 votes over the first ballot, while Lincoln had gained 79. The announcements by the Chairman of the votes given to Seward and Lincoln were received with deafening applause by the partisans of each candidate.

Then came the third ballot. All felt that this was to be decisive. Hundreds of pencils kept the record as the vote proceeded. Before the result was announced, Governor Andrew rose and gave the solid vote of Massachusetts to Lincoln. Then it was known that Lincoln had received 231½ votes, 233 being the number required to nominate. James A. Briggs, of New York, whispered to the Hon. David K. Cartter and Joshua R. Giddings, of the Ohio delegation, who were sitting together: "Rise and call for four of your delegates to change their votes, and give Ohio the honor of completing the nomination." Mr. Cartter, the chairman of that delegation, immediately arose, and, glancing over his associates, who, with the exception of Judge Cartter, had voted steadily for Governor Chase, inquired if there were not four others in the Ohio delegation who would change from Chase to Lincoln. Four delegates instantly rose to their feet, giving their names, and the Convention at once burst into a state of uncontrollable excitement. The scene surpassed description. Men had been stationed upon the roof of the wigwam to communicate the result of the different ballots to the thousands outside, far outnumbering the packed crowd inside. To these men one of the secretaries

shouted: "Fire the salute! Abe Lincoln is nominated!" "Then," says Dr. Holland, in his "Life of Lincoln," "as the cheering inside died away, the roar began on the outside and swelled up from the excited masses like the noise of many waters. This the insiders heard, and to it they replied. Thus deep called to deep with such a frenzy of sympathetic enthusiasm that even the thundering salute of cannon was unheard by many on the platform." When the excitement had partly subsided, Mr. Evarts arose, and, in appropriate words, expressed his grief that Seward had not been nominated. He then moved that the nomination of Abraham Lincoln be made unanimous. John A. Andrew, of Massachusetts, and Carl Schurz, of Wisconsin, seconded the motion, and it was carried. Then the enthusiasm of the multitude burst out anew. A large banner, prepared by the Pennsylvania delegation, was conspicuously displayed, bearing the inscription "Pennsylvania good for twenty thousand majority for the people's candidate, Abe Lincoln." Delegates tore up the sticks and boards bearing the names of their several States, and waved them aloft over their heads. A brawny man jumped upon the platform, and, pulling his coat-sleeves up to his elbows, shouted: "I can't stop! Three times three more cheers for our next President, Abe Lincoln!" A full-length portrait of the candidate was produced upon the platform. Mr. Greeley telegraphed to the "Tribune": "There was never another such scene in America."

Chicago went wild. One hundred guns were fired from the top of the Tremont House. Friday night the city was in a blaze of glory. Bonfires, processions, torch-lights, fire-works, illuminations, and salutes, "filled the air with noise and the eye with beauty." "Honest Old Abe" was the utterance of every man in the streets. The Illinois delegation, before it separated, "resolved" that the millennium had come.

Mr. Seward was nominated in the convention by Mr. Evarts, of New York. Mr. Lincoln was nominated by Mr. Judd, of Illinois. The nomination of Mr. Lincoln was seconded by Mr. Delano, of Ohio, who said: "I desire to second the nomination of a man who can split rails and maul democrats—Abraham Lincoln." This probably originated the term "rail-splitter," which immediately became popular. Decorated and illuminated rails surrounded the newspaper offices, and became a leading feature of the campaign. "Rail-splitter Battalions" were formed in the different cities and minor villages of the North. At the great ratification meeting at Cooper Institute, June 8th,

after speeches by Messrs. Evarts, Blatchford, G. W. Curtis, General Nye, and Judge Tracey of California, the last-named said: "We wage no war upon the South, we harbor no malice against the South. We merely mean to *fence them in*" (pointing significantly to a rail exhibited on the platform); "this is all we propose to do to stop the extension of slavery, and Abe Lincoln has split the rails to build the fence."

What speaker at this time would have been so bold as to foretell that that man was raised up to free his country from slavery—that his hand would write the Proclamation of Emancipation?

Saturday, after the convention adjourned, the committee appointed by the convention to notify Lincoln formally of his nomination, with the Hon. George Ashmun, the Chairman of the Convention, at the head, went to Springfield, accompanied by several hundred men, carrying "rails," which, after marching in procession through the streets of Springfield, they stacked like muskets in

the Hall of Representatives of the State House. The cannon's roar responded to the flash of the telegraph throughout the country. Bonfires blazed everywhere. The enthusiasm of Lincoln's immediate friends and supporters was contagious, and spread throughout the North, as the record of the candidate became known.

The result of the convention, though unexpected to the country, was a natural one. As soon as the friends of the different candidates were ready to sacrifice their individual preferences to the demand for success, the contest was at an end.

Sunday night many of the delegates left Chicago for their homes. The sleeping-coaches were crowded. Col. Curtin and several of his friends occupied one of the sections. Just before dropping off to sleep, Curtin murmured: "Pettis, don't forget Reeder's announcement—the sweetest sound that ever greeted my ears—'Pennsylvania casts fifty-two votes for Abraham Lincoln of Illinois!'"

Frank B. Carpenter.



AN INSPIRED LIFE.

"DEEP," "true," and "simple," wrote Ralph Waldo Emerson, "your audience should be very large." "So deeply and poetically thoughtful, so true in language, so complete as a whole, these sonnets stand apart here in these qualities," the elder Dana, the poet, wrote to William Cullen Bryant, who, cordially agreeing with his friend's praise, spoke of the sonnets as possessing "extraordinary grace and originality." Such was the judgment of our elder poets on the poetical work of Jones Very, which appeared in the year 1839—a modest little collection of three essays in prose and some fifty sonnets, published in Boston at the suggestion of Emerson.

That edition has long been exhausted; but the little volume is still treasured in many

private libraries, and some of the sonnets have since been widely copied into various publications. Hawthorne placed them long ago in his "virtuoso's collection," with the appreciative remark: "a poet whose voice is scarcely heard among us as yet, by reason of its depth."

On the 28th of August, 1813, Jones Very, the poet, was born at Salem on Massachusetts Bay, then the principal entry port of the country for East Indian merchandise. He was the son of Captain Jones Very, and of Mrs. Lydia Very, a cousin of his father. Both had by their own exertions acquired a considerable general culture, and both were fond of writing verses, an accomplishment possessed in a marked degree by two other

of their children besides our poet. The contributions of his brother, the Rev. Washington Very, and his sister Miss L. L. A. Very, may be found in various collections of household and sacred poetry.

Jones Very was a shy, modest lad, of a gentle, confiding nature, which endeared him to his teachers and intimate friends; though a certain reserve of manner and marked maturity of thought, very early developed, tended to limit somewhat the circle of his school-boy intimates. Until he was nine years old he was sent to a private day school for children; then he was taken to sea by his father, with whom he made several voyages. His father died in 1824, and young Jones was sent to a public grammar school in his native town, where he at once attracted attention by his exceptionally good scholarship and sedate demeanor. His great desire was to go to college and pursue a strictly literary life; "to go," as he expressed it, "to the depths of literature." This he had to postpone for the more immediate duty of assisting his mother in providing for her family of three younger children, his two sisters and the brother before alluded to. He, therefore, went into an auctioneer's room in Salem.

Obtaining from the proceeds of an exchange the books he needed in order to fit himself for college, he mastered their contents and prepared himself to teach till he could find means to enter Harvard. With the assistance of an uncle, he was, in 1834, enabled to do so, joining the sophomore class in that year. In 1836 he was graduated at Harvard with second honors, and was appointed a tutor in Greek, studying meantime at the theological school connected with the university, from which latter, however, owing to ill health, he was never formally graduated; in 1843 he was duly licensed as a preacher by the Cambridge Association.

In 1838 he returned to Salem in search of much-needed rest, and after his health was restored, he again assisted his former teacher, Mr. Oliver, in conducting his classical school. Very had an ardent love for the Greek language and its literature. His pupils say he "fairly breathed the spirit of Greek literature," and that the charm with which he surrounded the study vanished from Harvard with him. He sought, besides, to influence personally the young men under his charge. Many of his best sonnets appeared at this time (1877-8) often on the backs of the young men's Greek exercises, as another means of influencing them for good.

Very first printed his poems in the columns of the newspapers then published in his na-

tive town, where they may still be found side by side with the tales of his more widely known friend and admirer, Hawthorne. Later productions were contributed to the undergraduates' publication, "*Harvardiana*," and to "*The Dial*," the periodical edited by Margaret Fuller. In 1839, as has been said, Emerson induced Very to publish a selection of his work; and many letters, which at this time passed between them, and between Emerson and Miss Elizabeth P. Peabody, show the warm interest which he took in Very, both as a man and as a writer. He writes to Miss Peabody, in 1838, of the "true and high satisfaction" he has had from Very's conversation and lecture, and "heartily congratulates" himself "on being, as it were, anew in such company."

The "lecture" here alluded to is the first of three prose essays included in the little volume before spoken of. It is on the subject of epic poetry, and is followed by two others on "Shakspeare" and on "Hamlet." They have much of the melodious movement that marks the lyric quality of his verse.

The poetry in this volume consists of some fifty sonnets, and with them a few lyrical pieces of rather more varying merit. Never was poetry more unpremeditated. The form is always the simpler Shaksperian measure of three quatrains and a couplet. Very himself regarded them as inspirations, and waited, like the prophets of old, for the message.

"Father, I wait thy word. The sun doth stand
Beneath the mingling line of night and day,
A listening servant, waiting thy command
To roll rejoicing on its silent way.
The tongue of time abides the appointed hour
Till on our ear its solemn warnings fall;
The heavy cloud withholds the pelting shower,
Then every drop speeds onward at thy call;
The bird reposes on the yielding bough
With breast unswollen by the tide of song;
So does my spirit wait thy presence now
To pour thy praise in quickening life along,
Chiding with voice divine man's lengthened sleep
While round the Unuttered Word and Love their
vigils keep."

He was impressed with the belief that all sin consists in self-will, all holiness in unconditional surrender to the will of God; and therefore felt entirely confident that if any one would make it his object not to do his own will in anything, but constantly to obey the will of God, he would be led by Him and taught of Him in all things. Indeed, he strove with all his energies to surrender his own desires to the inward Light, and felt as a consequence, when he was moved to speak, that he *knew* absolutely the truth of what he delivered, though he was never other than humble and modest.